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JAMES M. STOVER
NCR CORPORATION
1700 SOUTH PATTERSON BLVD, WHQ4
DAYTON, OH 45479

EXAMINER
HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	7

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _24 March 2003_ .

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-15 and 17-25_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-15 and 17-25_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

   If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
      application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

   a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-25 were pending. The communication filed on 3/24/03 has amended Claims 1,

5, 6, 7, 13, 15, 19-22 and 24-25 and canceled Claim 16. Claims 1-15 and 17-25 remain for

examination.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to Claims 1-15 and 17-25 have been considered but

are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found

in a prior Office action.

3.   Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10, 13-15 19, 21-25are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over US 6061689 issued to Chang et al, herein referred to as Chang in view of US

6092076 issued to McDonough et al, herein referred to as McDonough.

Referring to Claim 1:

Chang discloses a method of gathering data from a database comprising: storing within a

database table, objects containing image data, said database table comprising at least one row

including objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different

column within said database table (col 3, lines 30-35; col 4, lines 10-25), receiving, in a server

system, objects extracted from at least one row of said database table in response to a request

received from a client system (col 8, lines 55-65)

Chang does not explicitly disclose "the objects corresponding to one or more layers and

in the server system, combining the objects and creating a file containing a representation of the

image data for communication to the client system."

McDonough discloses the objects corresponding to one or more layers (col 6, lines 1-5);

and in the server system, combining the objects and creating a file containing a representation of

the image data for communication to the client system (col 3, lines 15-20; Fig 2; col 12, lines 5-

25).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Chang such that a file is created that contains a plurality of objects, said objects corresponding to one or more layers. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a display mechanism that provides a zooming capability (McDonough: col 5, lines 44-50).

Referring to Claim 13:

Chang discloses a system comprising: a database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table (col 3, lines 30-35; col 4, lines 10-25).

Chang does not explicitly disclose "an interface to said database system (Fig 1, col 3, lines 60-62); an interface to a client system (col 3, lines 45-50); and a controller adapted to receive a request from the client system, receive objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system in response to the request, and combine the objects into a file that provides a visual representation of the image data (col 7, lines 65-67; col 8, lines 1-20)."

McDonough discloses an interface to said database system (Fig 1, col 3, lines 60-62); an interface to a client system (col 3, lines 45-50); and a controller adapted to receive a request from the client system, receive objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system in response to the request, and combine the objects into a file that provides a visual representation of the image data (col 7, lines 65-67; col 8, lines 1-20; Fig 2; col 12, lines 5-25).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Chang such that a file is created that contains a plurality of objects, said objects corresponding to one or more layers. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a display mechanism that provides a zooming capability (McDonough: col 5, lines 44-50).

Referring to Claim 19:

Chang discloses an article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a server system to: receive a request from a client system for data in a database, said database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table (col 3, lines 30-35; col 4, lines 10-25) receiving objects from the database in response to the request (col 8, lines 55-65);

Chang does not explicitly disclose combining the objects into a file to represent an image that is a composite of the combined geospatial data

McDonough discloses combining the objects into a file to represent an image that is a composite of the combined geospatial data (col 8, lines 1-20; Fig 2; col 12, lines 5-25).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Chang such that a file is created that contains a plurality of objects, said objects corresponding to one or more layers. One of ordinary skill in the art

would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a display mechanism that

provides a zooming capability (McDonough: col 5, lines 44-50).

Referring to Claims 2, 14 and 23:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 13 and

22. McDonough further discloses receiving the object comprises receiving objects extracted

from an object relational database (col 7, lines 16-18).

Referring to Claim 5:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above.

McDonough further discloses objects containing geospatial data (Fig. 3-5; col 4, line 55).

Referring to Claim 6:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above.

McDonough further discloses said objects contain geospatial data and said multiple data types

include at least one of the following elements: points, lines, and polygons (Fig. 3-5; col 4, lines

20-25).

Referring to Claims 7:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 above.

McDonough further discloses said objects contain geospatial data and said multiple data types

include at least one of the following elements: an image, points, lines, and polygons (Fig. 3-5;

col 4, lines 20-25).

Referring to Claim 8:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 7 above.

McDonough further discloses combining the objects comprises combining two or more of the

image, points, lines, and polygons (Fig 2; col 8, lines 10-20; col 12, lines 5-10).

Referring to Claims 10 and 24:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 19

above. McDonough further discloses receiving a request for plural layers of image data, and

wherein receiving the objects comprises receiving objects extracted from the database for the

plural layers (col 5, lines 45-51).

Referring to Claim 15 and 21:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 13 and 19

above. McDonough further discloses said multiple data types include at least one of an image,

points, lines, and polygons (Fig. 3-5; col 4, line 55).

Referring to Claim 25:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 19 above.

McDonough further discloses a request from the client system is for a first layer of the image, the

instructions when executed further causing the server system to receive a second request from the client system for a plurality of layers of the image (col 5, lines 45-51; col 6, lines 5-25).

4.   Claims 3, 4, 9-12, 17-18 and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6061689 issued to Chang et al, herein referred to as Chang in view of US 6092076 issued to McDonough et al, herein referred to as McDonough as applied to Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10, 13-15 19, 21-25 above, and further in view of US 6348927 issued to Lipkin, herein referred to as Lipkin.

Referring to Claims 3 and 17:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 and 13 above.

Chang in view of McDonough do not explicitly disclose the claimed creating a markup language file.

Lipkin discloses creating the file comprises creating a markup language file (col 5, lines 45-55).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Chang in view of McDonough to create a Markup Language file. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the information to be displayed on a browser (Fig. 1).

Referring to Claims 4 and 18:

Chang in view of McDonough and Lipkin disclose the limitations as discussed in Claim 3 and 13 above. Lipkin further discloses creating the markup language file comprises creating a Virtual Reality Markup Language file (col 5, lines 45-55).

Referring to Claim 9, 11 and 20:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 8, 10 and 19 above.

Chang in view of McDonough does not explicitly disclose the claimed creating a Virtual Reality Markup Language file.

Lipkin discloses creating the file comprises creating a Virtual Reality Markup Language file (col 5, lines 45-55).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Chang in view of McDonough to create a Markup Language file.   One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the information to be displayed on a browser (Fig. 1).

Referring to Claim 12:

Chang in view of McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 10 above. McDonough further discloses generating the request for plural layers of image data in response to an interactive user action with respect to the displayed image data (col 5, lines 45-50).

Chang in view of McDonough does not explicitly disclose the claimed "displaying image

data represented by the Virtual Reality Markup Language file in the client system"

Lipkin discloses a method of displaying image data represented by VRML (col 7, lines

60-65).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

skill in the art to modify the teachings of Chang in view of McDonough to include display

images represented by VRML. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do

this because it would allow a client to view map data from a client computer (Fig. 1).

5.   Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent

6092076 issued to McDonough et al, herein referred to as McDonough.

Referring to Claim 22:

McDonough discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 13 and 21 above.

McDonough further discloses the database system comprises a table containing the image,

points, lines, and polygons (col 4, lines 20-25).

McDonough does not explicitly disclose the claimed "the objects being extracted from 3

different columns of said database table".

However, McDonough discloses that point, line, polygon information is stored in the

database. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time that the

invention was made to modify the teachings of McDonough to store the polygon, lines and point

information in 3 different Columns. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated

to do this because it would allow efficient access to data.

Prior Art

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

US 6058397 issued to Barrus, John et al. Barrus discloses virtual reality environment

creation, modification and delivery system stores information representing the virtual reality

environment in a database where portions of it may be created, modified or delivered without

affecting other portions. The database may be accessed, for example, over a network such as a

wide area network, to allow database records to be individually updated without affecting other

records in the database. Barrus further discloses the use of object tables.

Final Rejection

7.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Conclusion

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is 1703-305-

5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on 1703-305-4393. The fax phone numbers for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 1703-746-7239 for regular

communications and 1703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1703-305-3900.

Monplaisir Hamilton
May 15, 2003